

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: B. Raghava Reddy, et al.

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Group Art Unit: 3672

Serial No.: 10/827,022

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Examiner: Coy, Nicole A.

Filed: April 19, 2004

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Confirmation No.: 2519

For: SEALANT COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING
COLLOIDALLY STABILIZED LATEX AND
METHODS OF USING THE SAME§
§
§
§Mail Stop: Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**CERTIFICATE OF FILING**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed at the USPTO website to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on 7/11/2006
Edith S. Shek**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 13, 2006, with respect to the above-identified application, Applicants elect with traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-16, drawn to a method, classified in class 166, subclass 293.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement. The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures (MPEP) section 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner **must** examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. (emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that there will be no additional burden on the Examiner to search and examine all of the pending claims. The search required for Group I, claims 1-16, drawn to a method, will inherently overlap with the search required for Group II drawn to a composition. In the event that the Examiner elects to maintain the restriction, Applicants reserve the right to seek rejoinder of the Group II claims pursuant to MPEP 821.04 if the claims of elected Group I are allowed.

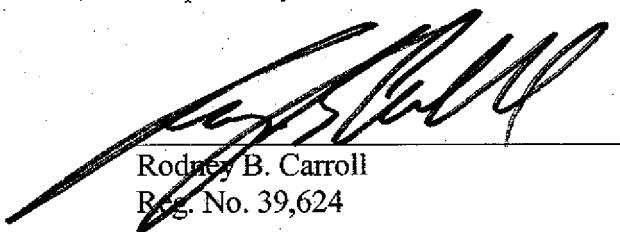
CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully look forward to the Examiner's substantive action on these claims. If the Examiner believes it would assist in expediting the application, Applicants welcome a telephone conference with the Examiner to improve understanding of and resolve any questions or issues of the Examiner.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee connected with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-1515, Conley Rose, P.C.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7-11-06



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